(c) Allotment of levy cement made to Orissa during the years 1984 and 1985 under levy category is indicated as under:—

| Year | Allocation of levy cement (including I&P) (in tonnes) |
|---|---|
| 1984 | .....484290 |
| 1985... | .....482640 |

So far as allocation of cement under non. levy category is concerned, there is no distribution control on non-levy cement and cement producers are free to sell it anywhere in the country.

**Cooperation in postal services with South Asian countries**

1571. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state-.

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan for cooperation "in postal services with countries of South Asia; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cooperation is being effected under the auspices of SARC (South Asian Regional Cooperation). Members of SARC are Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and India.

In the Third Technical Meeting on Postal Services held in New Delhi from September 16 to 18, 1985 under SARC, the following was decided upon:

(1) India has offered to hold a training course on 'Post Office Savings Bank* for two fellows from each SARC Administration in Feb., 1986.

(2) India has also offered to host a seminar on 'Agency Function and Financial Services in the Post Office', to be conducted in conjuction with the next meeting of this Committee.

Apart from the above, India would also be organising" the SARC Letter-Writing Competition in 1986.

In the long term the following areas and projects have been identified:

(a) Exchange of Commemorative Stamps amongst South Asian Countries.

(b) Printing of Postage Stamps.

(c) Establishment of a Centre for Research and Development.

While the first project would be carried out by Pakistan, the Second project will be carried out by India with the assistance of Pakistan. India would also be preparing a project report on the establishment of a Centre for Research and Development in consultation with other SARC Administrations.

On the subject of exchange of experts in various postal fields in the region, the Committee decided that India as Chairman would address all Administrations in the region to indicate the areas of expertise available within their own Administrations in which consultancies could be offered by them and also to ascertain from member administrations the specific areas in which consultant missions would be needed by them. .

**Communication system in Tamil Nadu**

1572. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the communication system in Tamil Nadu has been severely affected after the recent heavy rain; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what remedial actions have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the affected installations trunk lines and circuits are given below: